THE

American Ensign

QUARTETTE

Words by

Joseph H. Nichols

Music by

J. P. WEBSTER.

New York.
PUBLISHED BY J.L.PETERS.
Cincinnati. J.J. Dobmeyer & Co. St. Louis. J.J. Dobmeyer & Co.
Chicago. T. G. De Motte.

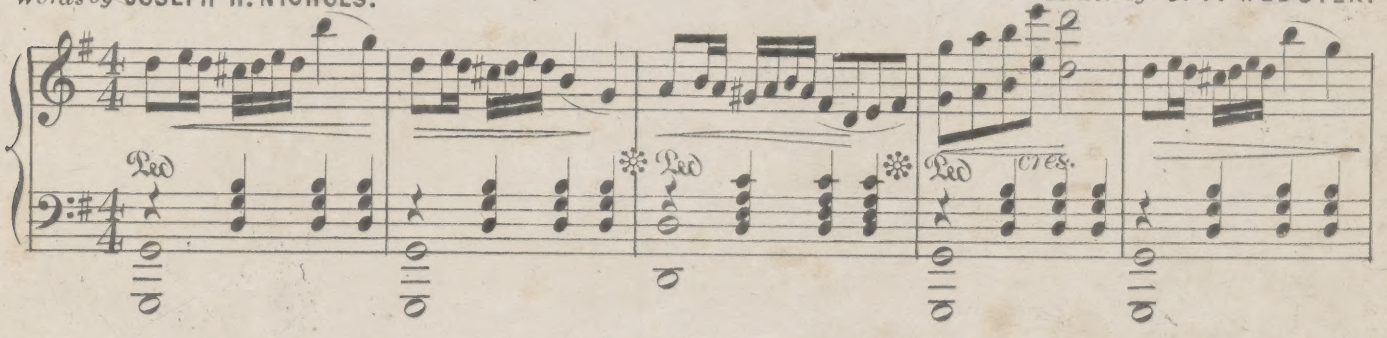
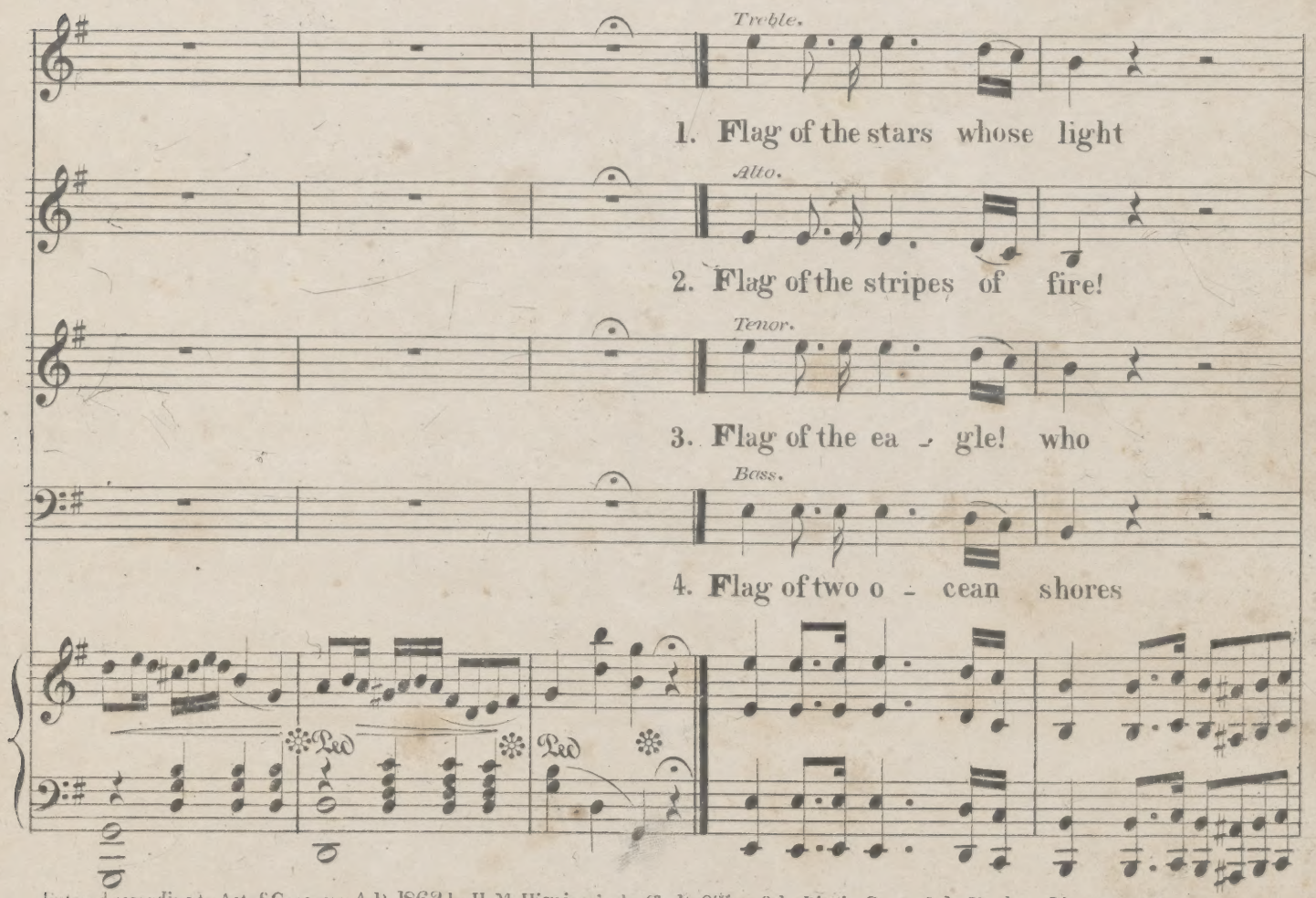
Entered
according to Act of Congress A.1862 by H.M. Higgins in the Clerks Office of the Dist Court of the North'n Dist of Illinois

THE AMERICAN ENSIGN.

QUARTETT.

NOTE.— This song was originally written by Mr Nichols when a law-student in the city of New York, in November 1826; & was first published at that time in the New York Statesman, under the signature of N. The author, in the lapse of years, had lost sight of it, and had almost forgotten it, when a female spiritualist in the city of New York, during the summer of 1856, on a public occasion, gave utterance to this song as one of the proofs of her supernatural inspiration.

Since the rebellion began, it has gone the round of the news papers, anonymously. Many of the lines have been altered by the author since the piece was first composed. He is now an Episcopal clergyman of Wisconsin, and Professor of English Literature in Paine College.

Words by JOSEPH H. NICHOLS. *Music by* J. P. WEBSTER.



Entered according to Act of Congress A.D. 1862 by H.M. Higgins, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Northern District of Illinois.

First cheered the nations gloomy night, And bade the world no more to sigh;
Long as the bard his lof-ty lyre Can strike, thou shalt a-wake our song:
Up - on thy shining fields of blue, His fie - ry pin-ions boldly spread;
Whose ev - er - lasting thunder roars From deep to deep in storm and foam;

Oh! can thy chil - dren gaze Up - on their sap-phire blaze,
We'll sing thee round the hearth, In ho - ly house-hold mirth;
A - round thee we will stand, With our bright blades in hand,
Tho' with the sun's red set Thou sink'st to slum - ber, yet

Nor kin - dle at the rays Which led the brave of old to die.

We'll sing thee when we forth To bat - tle go, with cla - rion tongue.

And swear to guard the land We love till life's last drop be shed.

With him dost not forget To rise and make the heavens thy home.

Hail!..... Hail!..... Hail! Hail! Hail banner beautiful and

Hail!..... Hail!..... Hail! Hail! Hail banner beautiful and

Hail!..... Hail!..... Hail! hail! hail! Hail banner beautiful and

Hail banner beautiful and grand, Float forever o'er our land. Hail! hail! hail! Hail banner beautiful and

grand, Float thou for- ev-er o'er our land.

grand, Float forev-er, ev-er, Float thou for- ev - er o'er our land, for- ev-er ev-er.

grand, Float thou for- ev-er o'er our land.

grand, Float thou for- ev-er o'er our land.

Float thou forever, Float thou forever, Float thou forever o'er our land.

Float thou forever, ever, Float thou forever, ever, Float thou forever o'er our land.

Float thou forever, Float thou forever, Float thou forever o'er our land.

Float thou forever, Float thou forever, Float thou forever o'er our land.

Hail banner beautiful and grand, Float thou for-ev-er o'er our land,

O'er mountain, prairie, lake and sea, Where 'er thou float'st we'll sing to thee!

How sweet, how beautiful is death, When for thy sake we yield our breath.

Flag of the *West* be thou un - furl'd, 'Till the last trump shall wake the world.

Hail banner beau-ti-ful and grand, Float thou for- ev - er o'er our land.

O'er mountain, prairie, lake and sea, Wher- e'er thou float'st we'll sing to thee!

How sweet, how beauti-ful is death, When for thy sake we yield our breath.

Flag of the *West* be thou un-furl'd, 'Till the last trump shall wake the world.